

# Halloween II

by Jeff de Feo & Brian Forbes



Ambulance driver Jimmy (Lance Guest) discovers yet another victim of the slaughter at Haddonfield Memorial Hospital.

**S**OMEONE has removed Judy Meyers' headstone from the graveyard.

**SOMEONE** has left a freshly killed dog in the old abandoned Meyers house.

**SOMEONE** has broken into a store and stolen a Halloween mask and several long knives.

**SOMEONE** has returned to Haddonfield after 15 years in a mental institution. It is October 31, 1978, the Eve of All Hallows: Halloween.

And **HE** has returned this night of fright to finish what he started.

He is 21 years old and was locked away since he was 6. That was the point when the timeless horror was embodied in the boy to do its bidding.

*But the horror itself was born at the very dawn of the Celtic race, in a tribe in Ireland. a young maiden, Deirdre, the youngest daughter of the druid king, was to marry a young warrior named Cullain. They had been chosen for each other by the tribal members tho there was one young man of 15 who altho born slightly deformed was willing to fight to show Deirdre his devotion to her.*

*She laughed at the boy, calling him a monster.*

*During the wedding the boy took a knife first to Cullain and then Deirdre, slashing them until their eyes stared with the cold darkness of death. The tribe was so revolted by the actions of the deformed boy that they literally tore him apart, limb from limb, saving only his heart & head. The Druid King took the heart & head and placed them on an isolated mountain to rot unblest.*

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Dr. Loomis (Donald Pleasance) & the coroner examine the charred remains of the man suspected of being the Shape.

*He then cast a curse upon the soul of the boy: "Thy soul shall roam the Earth till the end of time, reliving thy foul deed and thy foul punishment."*

*Down thru the generations came the horror until during Halloween (derived from the Celtic Druid festival of the dead) it took form in the body of a young boy, Michael Myers, who slashed his sister and, having escaped from a mental institution 15 years later, returns to wreak further mayhem in HALLOWEEN II.*

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In our last issue FM's tricky readers were treated to a pre-release glimpse of John Carpenter's scary new sequel, HALLOWEEN II. We tantalized you with . . .

*Tasty tid-bits of terror!*

*Macabre morsels!*

*Sinister snacks!*

Just enough details & pix to whet the appetite of any red-blooded (or is that dead-bloodied?) horror fan.

Now, awestruck audiences all over the country have experienced the continuation of that ghastly Halloween night in Haddonfield . . . the night HE came home!

For some the petrifying shock remains . . . the nightmares persist. But for others, those who are fanatics of fright, FM has compiled an interesting assortment of facts & fotos which is guaranteed to make your skin crawl!



Her friends TOLD her not to bob for apples in a 140° jacuzzi. Now her face is out of this whirl(pool).



Mrs. Elrod (Lucille Bensen) discovers the theft of her butcher knife and the trail of blood left by the Shape.

#### FROM HADDONFIELD TO HOLLYWOOD

Both HALLOWEEN I & II take place in the quiet, Midwestern town of Haddonfield, Illinois—a place which doesn't really exist. The name was chosen by the film's multi-talented co-writer/producer Debra Hill, who grew up in Haddonfield, New Jersey. But neither film was shot in Illinois or New Jersey.

Altho it may be somewhat of a surprise, it is possible to recreate a small Midwestern town in the heart of Hollywood without having to build it. The Haddonfield homes where Laurie Strode (Jamie Lee Curtis) babysits and discovers the mutilated bodies of her schoolmates may be seen right off Sunset Boulevard in the middle of West Hollywood. This quiet, tree-lined avenue may seem a bit out of place in the midst of urban Horrorwood but not in Illinois.

#### HOSPITALS OF HELL

Much of the heart-stopping terror in HALLOWEEN II takes place as the Shape pursues Laurie thru the confines of Haddonfield Memorial Hospital. The stalking killer has abandoned his butcher knife for the more calculatingly lethal surgical scalpel & hypodermic needle.

A shuttered wing of Morningside Hospital in Inglewood, CA, was opened up to the film crew for some of the interior scenes, supplemented by shooting at the Pasadena Community Hospital. These scenes, along with those shot on the streets of West Hollywood, make it very difficult for viewers to believe that both HALLOWEEN I & II were not actually filmed in the Midwest.

#### GHAST CAST & GRUE CREW

One aspect which makes HALLOWEEN II such an effective sequel is the input of the same basic team of people who collaborated on HALLOWEEN I. Not only are the primary cast members back but many of the faces behind the camera returned to recreate the fear & suspense.

#### THIS CARPENTER USES COFFIN NAILS

John Carpenter (DARK STAR, THE FOG, EYES OF LAURA MARS, SOMEONE IS WATCHING ME) has co-authored HALLOWEEN II with his partner in horror, Debra Hill, and is also the film's executive producer. But unlike the original, Carpenter did not direct HALLOWEEN II. In fact, he was reluctant at first to even attempt a sequel to HALLOWEEN. "My biggest problem was that I did not want to direct it (the sequel)—I had made that film once and I really didn't want to do it again."

After a somewhat extensive search for a director for their film, the Carpenter/Hill team selected a young filmmaker named Rick Rosenthal. "We seemed pretty philosophically compatible regarding suspense & horror," stated Rosenthal. "HALLOWEEN II is a combination of suspense & horror. There is little onscreen violence; it's a lot more visceral than gory . . . which we think is more frightening." HALLOWEEN II marks an extremely successful debut for Rosenthal as a feature film director.

#### "THE QUEEN OF MORBID TERROR"

That is what John Carpenter has affectionately dubbed his co-author/producer Debra Hill. After combining with Carpenter on THE FOG & ESCAPE FROM NEW YORK (as well as the original HALLOWEEN), Ms. Hill returned to lend her expert guidance to the production of HALLOWEEN II. She is currently producing CLUE, a film based on the Parker Brothers board game. FM alumnus John Landis (SCHLOCK, ANIMAL HOUSE, BLUES BROTHERS, AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN LONDON) is to direct the film for Polygram/Universal.

#### SHUTTERS CAUSING SHUDDERS

Director of Photography Dean Cundey, who also shot the original HALLOWEEN, THE FOG & ESCAPE FROM NEW YORK with the Carpenter/Hill team, returned on HALLOWEEN II with his slithering Panaglide camerawork. This technique involves a gyroscopic camera mount which gives a floating, drifting look. It is most effectively used when portraying a scene thru the eyes of the Shape.

#### THE OTHER QUEEN OF MORBID TERROR

Seemingly, no great horror film is complete these days without the presence of the ultimate victim/heroine, Jamie Lee Curtis (HALLOWEEN I, TERROR TRAIN, PROM NIGHT, ROAD GAMES, THE FOG). Ms. Curtis has the rare ability to convince & involve an audience in her peril and that has made her a highly sought





**An FM Exclusive: The Shape, in flames, is still alive after the operating room explosive.**

after lead for suspense film people. Unfortunately for the fans of this genre, Jamie sees her role in HALLOWEEN II as the end of that cycle. But she is very proud of her work in horror films: "They gave me the opportunity to run the entire gamut of emotions—joy, fear, romance, all of it. And because many of these films are made on low budgets, you have to learn how to deliver quickly."

#### **THE SHAPE**

In HALLOWEEN I, The Shape was played by Nick Castle, a cowriter of ESCAPE FROM NEW YORK. But during the filming of HALLOWEEN II, Castle was directing TAG (The Assassination Game), an action thriller based on a popular college campus "game" in which students carry out pretended assassinations of one another, and he was unable to repeat his role as the killer in HALLOWEEN II.

In naming the man to play the role in HALLOWEEN II, the Carpenter/Hill team must have had some deep subconscious thoughts, because the actor chosen to play The Shape is named Dick Warlock—that's right, *Warlock!* As in witch, goblin, ghost, poltergeist, demon, imp, devil, succubus, incubus & Shape!

HALLOWEEN II: a terrifying, memorable film right down to the very last shock!

**END**



**Laurie Strode never should have strayed into this abode. The Shadow Knows!**